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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Claude LARDY et al.

Examiner: Sikarl A. Witherspoon

Serial No.: 10/507,107

Group Art Unit: 1621

Filed: September 10, 2004

Title: NITROSODIPHENYLAMINE DERIVATIVES AND THEIR
PHARMACEUTICAL USE AGAINST OXIDATIVE STRESS PATHOLOGIES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

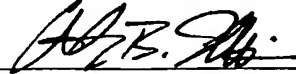
In response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 6, 2006, Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 1-12, 16, 18 and 20. The Requirement for Restriction is respectfully traversed.

The Requirement for Restriction is respectfully traversed, inasmuch as it is submitted to be little if any additional burden to examine all the claims.

Moreover, it is submitted that the reasons given to support the requirement for restriction, spanning pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, are inappropriate inasmuch as they clearly pertain to election of species (see page 4, the second and third paragraphs). Indeed, in the present application, the Examiner *is* maintaining claims to product and use thereof together, as per the discussion at page 3 of the Office Action. Indeed, it is submitted that the reasons set forth in this portion of the Office Action mandate maintaining the entirety of the application together for examination, and the same is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due with this response, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-2920

Date: August 7, 2006

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